

Speaking not long after the NTSB warned that there had been "an erosion of safety" in aviation, Engen called U.S. aviation the world's safest, asserting that criticism of the system was often based on "emotion and misinformation."

In a speech at the National Press Club, the soft-spoken admiral said that the holder of his post would never lack for critics looking over his shoulder.

"There is a fine line between constructive oversight and unconstructive meddling," he said.

Engen said more airports were needed, rather than re-regulation of the airlines, as some critics had proposed.

The reasons for his resignation were not made known, but in aviation circles it was said that friction had occurred between him and then-Transportation Secretary Elizabeth Hanford Dole. The FAA is part of the Transportation Department.

Of his departure, Engen said only, "There's never a good time to leave, but the time has come."

After a long search, he was picked in June 1996 to head Air and Space. Critics had contended that the proposed Enola Gay exhibit depicted the United States as the aggressor during World War II. At the time of his appointment, one of the critics called Engen "a true aviator," and said "we are all exalted."

Engen married the former Mary Ann Baker in 1943, and they had four children.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. FROST (at the request of Mr. GEPHARDT) for today and July 16 on account of family business.

Mr. COBLE (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for after 3:30 today until July 21 on account of official business.

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania (at the request of Mr. ARMEY) for after 8 p.m. today and July 16 on account of personal business.

SPECIAL ORDERS GRANTED

By unanimous consent, permission to address the House, following the legislative program and any special orders heretofore entered, was granted to:

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. HALL of Ohio) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. PALLONE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CLYBURN, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. SCOTT, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. RANGEL, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. CUMMINGS, for 5 minutes, today.

Ms. CARSON, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. PAYNE, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. FATTAH, for 5 minutes, today.

(The following Members (at the request of Mr. DIAZ-BALART) to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material:)

Mr. BEREUTER, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WAMP, for 5 minutes, today.

Mr. WELDON of Pennsylvania, for 5 minutes, today.

SENATE BILL REFERRED

A Bill of the Senate of the following title was taken from the Speaker's table and, under the rule, referred as follows:

S. 604. An act to direct the Secretary of Agriculture to complete a land exchange with Georgia Power Company; to the Committee on Agriculture.

ENROLLED BILL SIGNED

Mr. THOMAS, from the Committee on House Administration, reported that that committee had examined and found truly enrolled a bill of the House of the following title, which was thereupon signed by the Speaker.

H.R. 775. An act to establish certain procedures for civil actions brought for damages relating to the failure of any device or system to process or otherwise deal with the transition from the year 1999 to the year 2000, and for other purposes.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 45 minutes a.m.), the House adjourned until today, Friday, July 16, 1999, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 8 of rule XII, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

3047. A letter from the President and Chairman, Export-Import Bank, transmitting notification of a transaction which involves U.S. exports to a private company in the energy sector of Russia; to the Committee on Banking and Financial Services.

3048. A letter from the Special Assistant to the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Lordsburg and Hurley, New Mexico) [MM Docket No. 98-222 RM-9407] received July 9, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

3049. A letter from the Special Assistant to the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (SHELBY and Dutton, Montana) [MM Docket No. 99-63 RM-9398] received July 9, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

3050. A letter from the Special Assistant to the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Madison, Indiana) [MM Docket No. 98-105 RM-9295] received July 9,

1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

3051. A letter from the Special Assistant of the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.606(b), Table of Allotments, TV Broadcast Stations. (El Dorado and Camden, Arkansas) [MM Docket No. 99-45 RM-9401] received July 9, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

3052. A letter from the Special Assistant to the Chief, Mass Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule—Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations. (Giddings and Buda, Texas) [MM Docket No. 99-69 RM-9468] received July 9, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Commerce.

3053. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting the Fiscal Year 1996 report on the administration of the Maternal and Child Health Program; to the Committee on Commerce.

3054. A letter from the Under Secretary for Export Administration, Department of Commerce, transmitting notification that the Department of Commerce, in consultation with the Department of State, is imposing on the Portuguese Colony of Macau certain foreign policy-based export controls; to the Committee on International Relations.

3055. A letter from the Ambassador, Embassy of the State of Qatar, transmitting a letter from Mr. Mohamed bin Mubarak Al-Kholiefi, Speaker of the Advisory Council of the State of Qatar; to the Committee on International Relations.

3056. A letter from the Executive Director, District of Columbia Financial Responsibility and Management Assistance Authority, transmitting a Resolution and Order Approving Fiscal Year 2000 Financial Plan and Budget; to the Committee on Government Reform.

3057. A letter from the Secretary, Judicial Conference of the United States, transmitting the Biennial Survey of Article III Judgeship Needs in the U.S. courts of appeals and the U.S. district courts; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3058. A letter from the Office of the Attorney General, transmitting a report containing a recommendation for continuing authorization of the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

3059. A letter from the Program Analyst, Office of the Chief Counsel, FAA, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule—Airworthiness Directives; Dassault Model 2000, 900EX, and Mystere Falcon 900 Series Airplanes [Docket No. 99-NM-63-AD; Amendment 39-11218; AD 99-14-07] (RIN: 2120-AA64) received July 9, 1999, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

3060. A letter from the Secretary of Health and Human Services, transmitting a report on participation, assignment, and amounts of extra billing in the Medicare program; jointly to the Committees on Ways and Means and Commerce.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows: